

**Page Denied**

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Edward P. Boland  
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

The possibility that any Committee member harbors the thought that CIA lies to the Committee is so appalling that I feel obliged to determine if any member of the Committee actually feels that way and, if so, to seek the particulars. The confidence between the Agency and the Committee essential to make the oversight process work requires that any such impression be addressed. I therefore ask you to let me know whether you have made or heard anybody make such a statement or know of any member of the Committee who would be under that impression.

Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Clement J. Zablocki  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Zablocki:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Louis Stokes  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Stokes:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Romano L. Mazzoli  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Mazzoli:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

151

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Mineta:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Wyche Fowler, Jr.  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Fowler:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Lee H. Hamilton  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey



The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Albert Gore, Jr.  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Gore:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Bob Stump  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Stump:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable J. Kenneth Robinson  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Robinson:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable G. William Whitehurst  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Whitehurst:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable C. W. Bill Young  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Young:

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable James C. Wright  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Wright:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Dave McCurdy  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. McCurdy:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'WJ Casey', written in a cursive style.

William J. Casey

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable William F. Goodling  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Goodling:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

/s/

William J. Casey



The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Robert H. Michel  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Michel:

The New York Times of 18 May 1983 published what purports to be a quotation of a statement by a member of the House Intelligence Committee that, "the CIA lies to us anyway." While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy.

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Sincerely,

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William J. Casey

RESPONSES

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

25 May 1983

The Honorable Wyche Fowler, Jr.  
 Permanent Select Committee  
 on Intelligence  
 U. S. House of Representatives  
 Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Fowler:

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Sincerely,

27 MAY 1983

William J. Casey

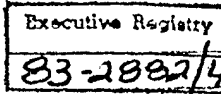
*Dear Mr. Director*  
*I did not*  
*make such a comment*  
*nor do I know anybody who would.*  
*My quarrel is not with your reporting, but with your policy.*  
*I'm not reading the papers for a few days - it may cool you down.*  
*Best -*  
*WJCasey*



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

ROMANO L. MAZZOLI  
THIRD DISTRICT  
KENTUCKY

June 3, 1983



The Honorable William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Director:

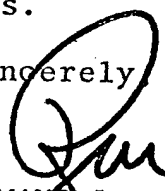
While some could object to the tenor of your letter of May 25th, I have decided to respond to it.

I have never felt Agency witnesses were lying to me or to the Intelligence Committee. However, it's fair to say that I have often had to verbally "arm wrestle" with witnesses to get the information I needed.

I cannot, of course, address the reactions and feelings of my colleagues on the Committee.

Best wishes.

Sincerely

  
ROMANO L. MAZZOLI  
Member of Congress

RLM:aoc

DCI  
EXEC  
REG

ROBINSON  
Winchester, Virginia

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
INTELLIGENCE

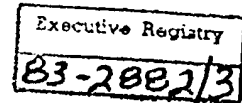
WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
2233 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-6561

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICES IN THE 7TH DISTRICT:  
112 N. CAMERON STREET (P.O. Box 714)  
WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA 22601  
TELEPHONE: (703) 667-0990

100 COURT SQUARE ANNEX (P.O. Box 136)  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22902  
TELEPHONE: (804) 295-2106

SUITE 305, 904 PRINCESS ANNE STREET  
(P.O. Box 336)  
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA 22404  
TELEPHONE: (703) 373-0536



June 3, 1983

Honorable William J. Casey  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

I've noted carefully your letter of 25 May 1983 citing the publication in The New York Times of 18 May 1983 of a purported comment by a member of the House Intelligence Committee to the effect that, "the CIA lies to us anyway."

While I understand your concern, I have to report that I have no knowledge as to any statement in that vein by a member of the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

J. Kenneth Robinson

5-107

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CLEMENT J. ZABLOCKI, WIS., CHAIRMAN

83-2882

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MARK D. SILJANDER, MICH.  
ED ZSCHAU, CALIF.

JOHN J. BRADY, JR.  
CHIEF OF STAFF

# Congress of the United States

## Committee on Foreign Affairs

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

June 1, 1983

The Honorable William J. Casey  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

This is to thank you for your letter of May 25 regarding a New York Times article purporting to quote a House Intelligence Committee member to the effect that "the CIA lies to us anyway."

Assuming both the accuracy and authenticity of the report, I would certainly regret that it was made. Assuredly, it was not made by me.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
Chairman

CJZ:gbg

DCI  
EXEC  
REG

APPEARED

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NEW YORK DAILY NEWS  
2 June 1983

**William F.  
Buckley Jr.**

## The fine art of spying

**H** EADLINE: "CASEY ASKS PANEL: WHO SAID THE CIA LIES?" William Casey, the director of the Central Intelligence Agency, can be a very cool cat, but occasionally his Irish is dandered, and the other day it was. A member of a congressional committee was anonymously quoted as saying, apparently with resignation, "The CIA lies to us anyway." This drew from Director Casey a communication that is scorching by the standards governing exchanges between executive agencies and congressional committees. What Mr. Casey wrote, one-half gut-anger, one-half euphemism, was:

"While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy. The possibility that any committee member harbors the thought that CIA lies to the committee is so appalling that I feel obliged to determine if any member of the committee actually feels that way and, if so, to seek the particulars. The confidence between the agency and the committee—essential to make the oversight process work requires that any such impression be addressed."

A few years ago, George Kennan

was quoted as saying he did not believe the CIA ought to engage in any covert operations. Taxed as to exactly why he thought this, he answered that it was simply not possible, in a political democracy, for an agency to keep secrets, and that under the circumstances one had to weigh the value of covert activity over against the embarrassment of public exposure of that activity. He concluded that the latter exceeded the former, and that therefore there should be no covert activity. To which Machiavelli might add: There should be no covert activity if there there is any reasonable possibility that it will be exposed. That is to say something a little bit different from what Mr. Kennan was saying, but that difference is vital.

In the past seven or eight years I have written five spy novels in the course of which I have attempted to conjugate a theme. Not a mysterious theme, but not one that is entirely easy to expound. It is this, that the counterespionage discipline is sometimes the transaction not of a law, but rather of an art. I mean by this that there is written into the inexplicit mandate of an intelligence organization an ambivalence that simply can't be wrung out by the conventional processes that go into the codification of most of a free society's laws.

Let us take a hypothetical situation. Our CIA agents in Uganda smell something big. Very big. An atom bomb. Never mind for the moment how Idi Amin got an atom bomb, but there it is, about the size of the Hiroshima bomb. What in the name of God does he propose to do with it? Well, he intends, exactly three hours from now, to dispatch a plane from his little air force and drop the bomb over Jerusalem, in retaliation against

the Israelis' Entebbe raid. Idi Amin is scheduled to go to the air base personally to wave off the bomber on a mission that will mean the extermination of an entire city and not inconceivably the beginning of a third world war. The mission could be aborted by a sniper who, properly situated, can end the career of this madman before his bomber takes off.

But isn't assassination wrong?

Yes, assassination is wrong. But can't one say that assassination is wrong, but that there are worse things than assassinations? Like death for a quarter million people, and perhaps a war?

Yes, one can say that.

Question: Is there machinery that can act on such a moral calculus?

Answer: Depends. Depends on the built-in resiliency of the appropriate mechanisms.

Sir: Are you saying that the CIA is entitled to lie to a congressional committee?

**N**O, I AM NOT. I am saying that there are worse things imaginable than the CIA lying to a congressional committee.

Do you doubt that Mr. Casey is telling the truth when he insists that the CIA does not lie to congressional committees?

No, I am not saying anything of the sort.

What then are you saying?

I am saying that circumstances hypothetically exist in which the director of the CIA would need to choose between 1) lying, or b) exposing a deed the exposure of which runs a risk of collapsing a vital organ of a free society, and that the prudent way of steering clear of such schematic collision courses is for both parties to just cool it; just don't talk about it; just let it go.



## OPERATIONS CENTER/CURRENT SUPPORT GROUP

DCI

## News Bulletin

NEW YORK TIMES  
pg. A-7

## Casey Asks Panel:

27 May 1983  
Item No. 4

## Who Said 'the C.I.A. Lies'?

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 26 — William J. Casey, Director of Central Intelligence, has written to members of the House intelligence committee demanding to know who told a reporter that "the C.I.A. lies to us anyway."

The letter, sent Wednesday, referred to an article in The New York Times on May 18 that discussed differences between the House and Senate intelligence committees regarding Congress's role in curbing covert aid to the Nicaraguan rebels. The article mentioned a House intelligence committee

report that accused the Reagan Administration of misleading and ignoring Congress about covert operations in Nicaragua.

A Democrat on the committee who asked not to be named was quoted as saying, "The C.I.A. lies to us anyway." This member believes that all aid to the rebels should be ended, as the House committee has recommended, rather than conditioned upon an explanation by intelligence officials, as the Senate committee has recommended. The Senate committee has also asserted its right to veto specific covert operations.

Mr. Casey wrote: "While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy."

"The possibility that any Committee member harbors the thought that C.I.A. lies to the Committee is so appalling that I feel obliged to determine if any member of the Committee actually feels that way and, if so, to seek the particulars. The confidence between the Agency and the Committee essen-

tial to make the oversight process work requires that any such impression be addressed.

"I therefore ask you to let me know whether you have made or heard anybody make such a statement or know of any member of the Committee who would be under that impression."

One committee member who received the letter today was incredulous. "They stopped just short of asking us to take a lie-detector test," he said.

Dale Peterson, a spokesman for the agency, said tonight, "We'll have no comment on the letter."

Meantime, Speaker of the House Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. criticized negotiations between Democrats on the House Foreign Affairs committee and Administration officials concerning legislation

to end the covert Nicaraguan aid. The Foreign Affairs Committee has concurrent jurisdiction with the intelligence panel on the legislation.

"The President of the United States broke the law and then laughed to the American people that he broke the law," Mr. O'Neill said. Referring to the negotiations, he said, "I hope there is no agreement to allow them to continue to break the law for the rest of the year."

The committee has selected Representative Lee H. Hamilton, Democrat of Indiana, to negotiate with the Administration, which is represented by Thomas O. Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs. "We're a long way away from any agreement," Mr. Hamilton said.

In a report supporting ending the aid,

the House intelligence committee disclosed that a year ago Congress barred any assistance to the rebels that was for the purpose of overthrowing the Sandinist Government.

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ON PAGE A-7

NEW YORK TIMES  
27 MAY 1983

## Casey Asks Panel: Who Said 'the C.I.A. Lies'?

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 26 — William J. Casey, Director of Central Intelligence, has written to members of the House intelligence committee demanding to know who told a reporter that "the C.I.A. lies to us anyway."

The letter, sent Wednesday, referred to an article in The New York Times on May 18 that discussed differences between the House and Senate intelligence committees regarding Congress's role in curbing covert aid to the Nicaraguan rebels. The article mentioned a House intelligence committee report that accused the Reagan Admin-

istration of misleading and ignoring Congress about covert operations in Nicaragua.

A Democrat on the committee who asked not to be named was quoted as saying, "The C.I.A. lies to us anyway." This member believes that all aid to the rebels should be ended, as the House committee has recommended, rather than conditioned upon an explanation by intelligence officials, as the Senate committee has recommended. The Senate committee has also asserted its right to veto specific covert operations.

Mr. Casey wrote: "While I have less than complete confidence in the accuracy of press reporting, that comment has offended our entire organization and impugns the integrity of our fine employees. In obligation to them I feel that I must pursue its accuracy."

"The possibility that any Committee member harbors the thought that C.I.A. lies to the Committee is so appalling that I feel obliged to determine if any member of the Committee actually feels that way and, if so, to seek the particulars. The confidence between the Agency and the Committee essential to make the oversight process work requires that any such impression be addressed

"I therefore ask you to let me know whether you have made or heard anybody make such a statement or know of any member of the Committee who would be under that impression."

One committee member who received the letter today was incredulous. "They stopped just short of asking us to take a lie-detector test," he said.

### Negotiations Criticized

Meantime, Speaker of the House Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. today criticized negotiations between Democrats on the House Foreign Affairs committee and Administration officials concerning legislation to end the covert Nicaraguan aid. The Foreign Affairs Committee has concurrent jurisdiction with the intelligence committee on the legislation.

"The President of the United States broke the law and then laughed to the American people that he broke the law," Mr. O'Neill said. Referring to the negotiations, he said, "I hope there is no agreement to allow them to continue to break the law for the rest of the year."

The committee has selected Representative Lee H. Hamilton, Democrat of Indiana, to negotiate with the Administration, which is represented by Thomas O. Enders, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs. "We're a long way away from any agreement," Mr. Hamilton said.

In a report supporting ending the aid, the House intelligence committee disclosed that a year ago Congress barred any assistance to the rebels that was for the purpose of overthrowing the Sandin-

ist Government. That prohibition, in April 1982, appeared in a classified annex to an authorization bill. Last December, Congress publicly adopted the same language, allowing covert aid only for the purpose of halting weapons flowing from Cuba and Nicaragua to insurgents in El Salvador.

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE **A-8**NEW YORK TIMES  
18 MAY 1983

# Intelligence Units in Congress At Odds on Covert Latin Aid

By MARTIN TOLCHIN  
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 17 — The House and Senate intelligence committees are in sharp conflict over Congress's role in curbing covert aid to the Nicaraguan rebels, members of both committees indicated today.

The House Select Committee on Intelligence has approved cutting off all covert aid to Nicaragua, while the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence has approved a \$19 million increase in such aid, but asserted its right to approve specific covert operations beginning Oct. 1.

Representative Edward P. Boland, chairman of the House committee, strongly opposes the Senate committee's plan as an inappropriate intrusion of Congress into the President's prerogatives.

"I am concerned about a one-House committee veto," the Massachusetts Democrat said in an interview.

## Role of Executive Branch

Specifically, Mr. Boland and others on the House committee have told Senate Democrats that it was the executive branch's role to initiate and conduct covert operations. They do not want Congress to be the President's partner in such actions.

"Some feared that Congress could be in recess when an emergency arose, and therefore be blamed for a delayed or inadequate response to an international crisis.

A House intelligence committee report, made public on Monday, accused the Administration of misleading and ignoring Congress about covert operations in Nicaragua. Some House members fear that if the Administration continues such a practice Congress will nonetheless be held fully accountable for the covert operations.

"The C.I.A. lies to us anyway," said a Democrat on the House committee.

## 'Legislators, Not Administrators'

Some House Republicans also questioned the wisdom of the Senate plan. "Politically, I don't know how smart their posture is," said Representative Henry J. Hyde, Republican of Illinois, who has played a leading role in the House Foreign Affairs Committee debate on the intelligence committee bill. "It makes them partners in the success or failure of the operation. They should be legislators, not administrators." The

Foreign Affairs Committee has concurrent jurisdiction over the intelligence committee plan.

Senate intelligence committee members, on the other hand, are critical of the House committee's proposed ban on all covert aid for Nicaraguan rebels. They consider the House committee action precipitous.

Senate committee members point out that the House committee approved its plan by a party-line vote of 9 to 5, and believe that the committee hurt itself by failing to gain a consensus that included Republicans.

"They'd like to get themselves out of the predicament they found themselves in," said Senator Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona, chairman of the Senate intelligence committee. "I think that party-line vote pretty near destroyed the effectiveness of the House committee."

## \$50 Million in Contingency Funds

Some House committee Democrats wanted to reduce drastically, if not eliminate, all contingency money for covert operations, which total \$50 million, and can be used by the Administration without Congress's approval. The proposal lacked support, however, and was abandoned before being put to a vote.

The Senate intelligence committee, whose plan was approved with bipartisan support, believes that its oversight role demands more than simply being informed of covert activities, as is required under present law.

The committee has asked the Administration to present a new plan with its objectives and strategies by Sept. 30, and Mr. Goldwater noted that the Administration had changed both objectives and strategies since the covert aid began in 1981.

Some Senate committee members contend that committee approval of specific covert operations is necessary because such operations necessarily violate existing treaties with nations in which the operations occur. Those treaties, they note, are the law of the land.

"It's a question of how you exercise oversight," said Senator Patrick J. Leahy, Democrat of Vermont, a committee member.

## House Republicans Are Split

Republicans on the House Foreign Affairs Committee were divided, meanwhile, over the prospects of bipartisan action on the House intelligence committee bill. The Foreign Affairs Committee is expected to vote on the measure Wednesday.

Mr. Hyde, a conservative Republican, doubted the possibility of a bipartisan compromise. "They haven't left us any room," he said. "It has become a partisan issue."

But Representative Jim Leach, a moderate Republican of Iowa and a former Foreign Service officer who often votes with the committee's Democrats, said, "My guess is that if only the Democrats' measure can come out, Republicans will be forced to vote for it."

Democrats on the House Foreign Affairs committee decided tonight to bar the public from the debate Wednesday on the ground that floor consideration of the measure would also be closed.